

Social Work of ASEAN Women's Association in Kalasin Province to Buddhist Integration

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Abstract: The purposes of this research were 1) to study the concepts and principles of social work in Thai society today, 2) to study the work of social work of ASEAN women association in Kalasin province, 3) to study social work of ASEAN women association in Kalasin province to Buddhist integration. This research was qualitative research. The data were collected from documents, field work, in-depth interview, key informants. Its aim was the concepts and principles of social work. Analysis model of work of ASEAN women association in Kalasin province were found that the concepts and principles of social work in Thai society today was a social work that took place as a form of practice in Thai society of being concrete. This social work was established on the principle of the four bases of sympathy (Sangahavatthu) consisting of 1) charity, generosity, sacrifice, 2) kindly speech, a speech was connected to society, 3) useful conduct to society, creating happiness, the relief of suffering, and 4) participation and behaving oneself properly in all circumstances, acting as a role model for society. The work of social work of ASEAN women association in Kalasin province was social work in the sense of giving benefits to society, exchanged knowledge and experience between groups of successful business people, collaboration for development to expand various project as well as promoting cooperation and working as a network, cultural exchange and tradition between community to community and country to country including organizing joint activity and exchanged for both public and private sectors. Social work of ASEAN women association in Kalasin province to Buddhist integration was consistent with research of donation to support community activity, which was to share happiness with the community, to create benefits for the public consistently, gave equality for everyone, treated everyone as a relative

Keywords: Social Work, ASEAN Women Association, Buddhist Integration

1. Introduction

Social work of ASEAN women's association is a group of volunteer society. The word "social work" has different meaning depending on society and culture context. For religion and history are a common basis for cultivating public mind to a member in society. Public mind for doing welfare work is the mind that is full of Metta (loving-kindness), Karuna (compassion) to others. It supports them for the cessation of suffering without expecting anything return. The current state of Thai society has deteriorated significantly. There are many problems such as material prosperity etc. It is the cause of society in general that provides the importance of value to pursuit money, power, virtue rather than the importance of mental development. Hence, the society with giving and sharing each other, maintaining the benefits of the community, cultivating consciousness in community, self-responsibility should take place in society. Volunteer allows everyone in society to live together. It is the creation of consciousness to help others and the public in accordance with the Buddha's doctrine. It focuses on physical, mental and intellectual development. If it is complete, it will lead to live in the society effectively, value, benefits to the society as the motto "A giver is always be loved by receiver". Giving also expresses consciousness of the sacrifice, great-hearted, generous by the giver. The self-development with Buddhism principles focuses on self-development to benefit in three steps; 1) self-development for one's benefit 2) self-development for others' benefit 3) self-development in advance level. It is self-development for the society and public. Those who can develop themselves in this world, they are known to be accepted by others. It can be said that there is a countable number. Therefore, the creation of consciousness for helping others and public is extremely needed for Thai society (Phra Brahmpundit, 2018: 10). [1].

"International women's day 2016". It is regarded to be good for Thai women, it encourages society aware of the values and the importance of women with great power. From the United Nations conference in September 2015, Prime Minister Phrayut Chan-o-cha said that promoting the equality of women is not a duty of women, but it belonged to people of all ages in promoting a positive attitude and reducing violence against women and children, and appreciate the differences and the potential of women. The national council of women of Thailand under the royal patronage of her majesty the queen is an organization that shows the potential of women and it will be an important force in the development of the country, to jointly spread to various organizations. It is a national organization, collaboration with the government, national women, and international women. It is essential to drive

the policies in the country. Women are the main force to keep the country stable and sustainable (Strategy for women development, 2017-2021:12) [2].

ASEAN Women's Association in Kalasin province is a member of ASEAN Association Thailand and a member of the national council of women of Thailand under the royal patronage of her majesty the queen. I was established to promote the role of women in Kalasin province. There was connection in 10 countries including the network in many provinces of Thailand. The role of the ASEAN women's association in Kalasin was established from the founder of the volunteer with the principles of organizational management. There was a committee to set policies and made decisions without any profits. They gathered to help each other within the organization and society. The key was members were volunteer, public welfare for helping the society, happy when doing good deeds, blessing others, thinking to help others from the cessation of suffering, including kindness and public consciousness who sacrificed physical, mental and intellectual strength to serve society (Thammasat University Research and Consultancy Institute, 2017: 3) [3].

The Association Foundation is to promote friendship, good relations, understanding of the cultural way of life, ASEAN Socio-Cultural for women in Kalasin province, Thai women and women in ASEAN countries are united, to promote the culture and knowledge of ASEAN among the general people, especially children and women to ASEAN women members (Community Development Department, 2019: 1-9) [4]. ASEAN women member in Kalasin province is aware of their duty to the nation and the world situation, working together for the public and public benefits, to promote language learning and development of career for Thai women in Kalasin province, to prepare to welcome the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC), to support the unity among the groups and help each other, to coordinate with the government, agency, organization, club, both public, and private that have similar purposes both in the country and abroad, to occur the benefits both education and career in the future of members and their family, to spend free time for the members, to exchange attitudes in various fields of knowledge between fellow members. Working and living together of members who come from different family might face the problem from their habits. They might have conflicts. These issues what researchers are interested to study how women organizations come to be a member to take individual advantage, to take advantage for the others, or to take advantage for the public.

Guidelines of the work of ASEAN Women's Association in Kalasin province aimed at work for the benefits of society and the public to creating a good people for society by cultivating consciousness to people to be responsible for themselves and society. Moreover, they have created moral and ethical people to serve society. The cooperation of members of the ASEAN Women's Association in Kalasin province was, therefore, united cooperation in making benefits and created good things to happen in society and the public. The gathering of the ASEAN Women's Association and the social work of the ASEAN Women's Association in Kalasin province was significant that was to bring the Buddha's doctrine to fill in various activities to be more complete.

Therefore, researchers are interested in studying the social work of the ASEAN Women in Kalasin province based on the concepts of Buddhist principles, to create happiness for society. It is expected that the results of this research will inspire the society that aims for Women's organizations in the future.

2 Research Objectives

- 1) To study the concepts and principles of the foundation of the ASEAN Women's Association of Thai society in the present.
- 2) To study the social work conditions of the ASEAN Women's Association in Kalasin province.
- 3) To study the social work of the ASEAN Women's Association in Kalasin province to Buddhist integration.

3. Research Methods

This research is to study the concepts and principles of the foundation of ASEAN Women's Association of Thai society in the present, to study the social work conditions of ASEAN Women's Association in Kalasin province, to study the social work of ASEAN Women's Association in Kalasin province to Buddhist integration.

3.2) Scope of documents

1) Primary sources: Thai Tipitaka Mahachulalongkornrajavidyalaya Version 1996 and Thai Atthakatha Tipitaka Mahachulalongkornrajavidyalaya Version 2017 and in-depth interview.

2) Secondary sources: Books, Academic textbooks, Media, Academic articles, and related research.

3.3) Area of studies

Kalasin province is selected by researchers. It is the site of the ASEAN Women's Association in Kalasin province. They have continued the social work. There are processes and forms of working in social work. And the research of volunteers has not been studied in this area before.

3.4) Scope of key informants

1) Advisors	10	persons
2) Administrations	4	persons
3) Members	23	persons
Total	30	Persons

4) Expected benefits

- 1) To know the concepts and principles regarding volunteers in Thai society in the present.
- 2) To know the social work conditions of ASEAN Women's Association in Kalasin province.
- 3) To know the social work of ASEAN Women's Association in Kalasin province to Buddhist integration.

4. Research Results

1) Concepts and principles regarding social work in Thai society in the present were found that social work trends have become a form of practice in Thai society. The social work is based on the principle of the four Sangahavatthu (bases of sympathy) consisting of 1) charity: generousness, sacrifice 2) kindly speech: encourage each other 3) Society leading to happiness and the cessation of suffering 4) behaving oneself properly in all circumstances and being a good role model.

2) The social work conditions of ASEAN Women's Association in Kalasin province were found that it played an importance functional role in social service, particularity social in Kalasin province and it was giving with happiness, motivation as well as building cooperation with the community, exchange the knowledge and experience in women's organization or women's organization network, exchange the knowledge and experience between groups of successful business people and network of entrepreneur in Thailand, coordinate for development and expansion of various projects as well as promoting the cooperation and work as a network and exchange the culture, customs between community to community and country to country including organizing joint activities, exchange the visit between ASEAN member countries of the people sector, or civil society as a center for coordinating of other organization but not the government and society, culture, science education, environment, disaster mangemange, public health, development, human rights and others.

3) The social work of ASEAN Women's Association in Kalasin province to Buddhist integration. It was found that

1) donate money to support community activities, which was to share happiness with the community along with the Buddha's doctrine "Dana" was the sharing of happiness and care to reduce the conflicts, or prevent future conflicts with consideration of the goodness to each other.

2) communicate with kindly speech, sweet speech "Piyavaca" was able to coordinate in the ten directions by the principle of Dhamma called "Vacasubhasitta" was the root of any speech, it was believable, not a sweet breath but hidden a weapon. Member of the ASEAN Women's Association in Kalasin principle has practiced corresponding to the principle of Piyavaca (kindly speech), truthful word. Only words were usefully used for further action in social work.

3) Creating benefits to public "Atthacariya", members of the association aimed at doing benefit to others. Besides, creating benefits for oneself, they also worked as a volunteer. The first starting point was to help the family. Making oneself useful was to put yourself in my shoes and well behave for the family. Especially the family was society, therefore, the mind adhered to volunteer work for society.

4) Behaving oneself properly in all circumstances "Samanattata" was to give equality to all people, to think, to do, to create for society happy. Members of the ASEAN Women's Association supported everyone like a relative, not haughty, behave towards other people until becoming a spiritual anchor and good friendship to each other.

This social work was established on the principle of the four bases of sympathy (Sangahavatthu) consisting of 1) charity, generousness, sacrifice 2) kindly speech, a speech was connected to society 3) useful conduct to society, creating happiness, the relief of suffering 4) participation and behaving oneself properly in all circumstances, acting as a role model for society alone the Buddha's doctrine.

5. Discussions

Concepts and principles regarding social work in Thai society in the present were found that social work trends have become a form of practice in Thai society. The social work is based on the principle of the four Sangahavathu (bases of sympathy) consisting of 1) charity: generousness, sacrifice 2) kindly speech: encourage each other 3) Society leading to happiness and the cessation of suffering 4) behaving oneself properly in all circumstances and being a good role model corresponding to the result of the research of Suthathip Kaewklieng mentioned above, she said that Buddhist principle aimed at people were generous, to help each other, sacrifice for the public benefits that were four Sangahavathu (bases of sympathy), to make people aware to help other people and create public benefits. The importance of the social work had to have the Dhamma for the practice corresponding to the research of Jaiphet Klajon (Mor Khiew) that practice meditation, reduce and avoid doing sin, charity, cheerful, healthy.

The social work conditions of ASEAN Women's Association in Kalasin province were the social work in the sense of giving benefits to society, exchanged knowledge and experience between groups of successful business people, collaboration for development to expand the various project as well as promoting cooperation and working as a network, cultural exchange and tradition between community to community and country to country including organizing joint activities, exchange the visit between ASEAN member countries of the people sector, or civil society as a center for coordinating of other organization, etc., corresponding to Suphalak Suwanklue, she stated that the social work of the ASEAN Women's Association in Kalasin province was eligible for four Sangahavathu (Bases of sympathy) which resulted in social work were successful. It was an association that was believed in contributing benefits to society. Its' aim was for peace, being a good role model for the general public as well as a good form for Buddhists to support money and power to society for others to be happy.

The social work of ASEAN Women's Association in Kalasin province to Buddhist integration was found that 1) charity, generousness, sacrifice 2) kindly speech, a speech was connected to society 3) useful conduct to society, creating happiness, the relief of suffering 4) participation and behaving oneself properly in all circumstances, acting as a good role model corresponding to the research of Suthathip Kaewklieng to be found that four Sangahavathu (Bases of sympathy) wat to help each other, sacrifice for public benefits. Therefore, social work is aimed at volunteer for self-development and society.

Suggestions

4) Policy Suggestions

1) Should stipulate as a provincial policy by the support from the government in the operation of Women's Association both country level and province level.

2) The ASEAN Women's Association in Kalasin province should have a personal development plan, provide training to prepare for the performance of new personnel.

4.1) Academic Suggestions

1) Should have a comparative study on the administration and management of welfare women's association in the region and great region to apply the results of the study to the services system for efficiency in the bureaucracy.

2) Should have a qualitative study of the activity to gain in-depth data for real improvement in problem-solving.

4.2) Suggestions and Benefits

1) Arrange to have a responsible person for monitoring the evaluation of activity and implementing the results for future action.

2) Public relations brochures in administration should have appropriate contact procedures.

3) This research will be used to spread the benefit to the public for society.

4.3) Suggestions and further research

1) Should study the service achievement of the ASEAN Women's Association in Kalasin province.

2) Should study the problem of service or administration of the ASEAN Women's Association in Kalasin province.

3) Should have a comparative study of administration and management of the ASEAN Women's Association in Kalasin province.

4.4) Suggestions for the use of research results

Although the model for the application of the volunteer that appear in the work of the ASEAN Women's Association in Kalasin province to strengthen the organization to achieve peace is Buddhist way to reach the happiness of the people in the organization that can be applied to reach the happiness of the members of the ASEAN Women's Association in Kalasin province. The researchers recommend the study of the context of the ASEAN Women's Association in Kalasin province to analyse the service for working in the organization and outside society to know the guidelines for proper implementation of the model to achieve the true peace of organization.

4.5) Suggestions

The study might be useful as information as a basis for those who are interested in studying which dimensions can the study of Buddhism be studied? In this research, researchers studied some areas. Initially, researchers view that there are some issues to be studied in the further research as follows;

1) Should study the application of the principle of four Sangahavatthu (Bases of sympathy) for the organizational management and an assessment of the relationship between the participants and the ASEAN Women's Association in Kalasin province that how to create happiness and lead to raising the association with continuous development.

2) Should have a comparative study between groups of the ASEAN Women's Association in Kalasin province and other organizations that how the leaders use the principle of four Sangahavatthu (Bases of sympathy) in organizational administration and how there are differences among the members of the organization.

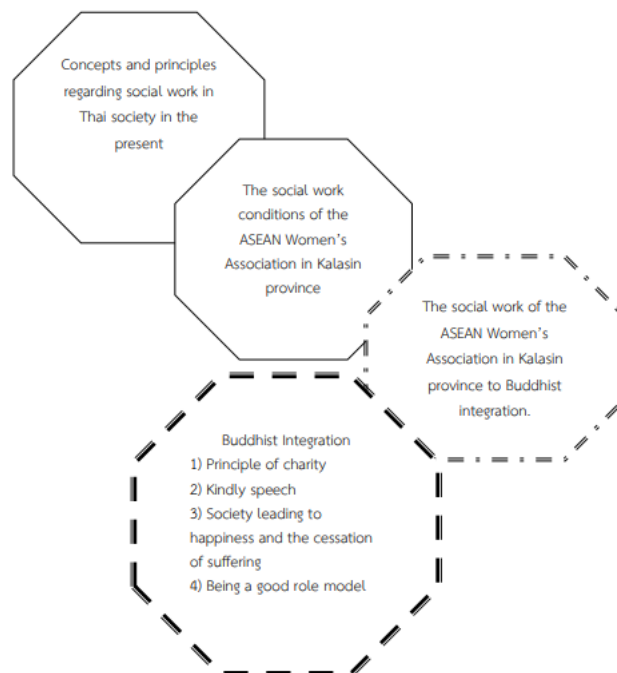
3) Should study the application that derives from the research to create a tool to strengthen the organization for peace in the association where the leaders use the four Sangahavatthu (Bases of sympathy) that how the basis for work is corresponding to the qualifications of the association members.

6. Conclusion

this social work was established on the principle of the four bases of sympathy (Sangahavatthu) consisting of 1) charity, generousness, sacrifice 2) kindly speech, a speech was connected to society 3) useful conduct to society, creating happiness, the relief of suffering 4) participation and behaving oneself properly in all circumstances, acting as a role model for society according to the Buddha's doctrine.

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The research entitles "Social Work of ASEAN Women's Association in Kalasin Province to Buddhist Integration" can be acknowledgement as follows;



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